



HENRY McMASTER  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

January 14, 2009

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal  
Attorney General  
State of Connecticut  
55 Elm Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06141-0120

The Honorable Roy Cooper  
Attorney General  
State of North Carolina  
Post Office Box 629  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27602-0629

**RE: Internet Safety Task Force ("ISTTF") Report**

Dear Attorneys General,

I understand that a report prepared for the National Association of Attorneys General Internet Safety Task Force by the Berkman Center at Harvard University has been released to the media without prior knowledge, approval or input from the South Carolina Attorney General's Office.

The findings of the Berkman Center's report as disclosed by the media are as disturbing as they are wrong, and the conclusions in this report create a troubling false sense of security on the issue of child Internet safety.

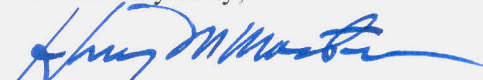
In South Carolina, Internet Predators pose a clear and present danger to our children. Our Internet Predator Task Force, formed in 2004, has made 147 arrests for online child solicitation with 66 convictions to date with the remainder awaiting trial. Our task force is comprised of 43 state and local law enforcement agencies participating in highly visible sting operations to catch these predators. These efforts are vigorous and ongoing. Sadly it seems that our arrest rate is only limited by the amount of resources that participating law enforcement agencies can dedicate to the effort, which is currently substantial.

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In addition, rapid technological advances with mobile phones, PDAs, video gaming systems and online social networking sites place our children more at risk from predators than at anytime before.

Because of my strong concerns about the incorrect conclusions of this report and the troubling false sense of security that they create, South Carolina will withdraw from the NAAG - ISTTF.

Yours very truly,



Henry McMaster

cc: Nick Alexander, Esquire  
Criminal Law Counsel  
National Association of Attorneys General  
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